

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
/104 W

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O 060603Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0492
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01262

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORC, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: KUWAIT REQUESTS INFORMAL SC
MEETING

REF: USUN 1218

1. SUMMARY. KUWAITI AMB BISHARA LATE APRIL 5 MADE
"TENTATIVE REQUEST" FOR INFORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL
CONSULTATIONS ON AFTERNOON OF APRIL 7 TO "EXCHANGE
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VIEWS" ON "ISRAELI NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SC RESOLUTION
425 ON SOUTH LEBANON. LEONARD EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT
CONSULTATIONS, EVEN IF NOT INTENDED TO LEAD TO FORMAL
COUNCIL MEETING, COULD UPSET CONSENSUS ON UNIFIL AND
MIGHT BE UNHELPFUL IN ACHIEVING DESIRED RESULT OF
ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL. LEONARD AGREED TO BE IN FURTHER
TOUCH WITH BISHARA APRIL 5 TO REVIEW SITUATION IN

LIGHT OF APPROACHES BEING MADE TO GOI TODAY. END SUMMARY.

2. AMB LEONARD MET LATE APRIL 5 WITH KUWAITI PERMREP BISHARA AT LATTER'S REQUEST. BISHARA REPORTED THAT AT MEETING HE HAD HAD WITH LEBANESE AMB TUENI AND REPS OF SYRIA AND PLO TUENI HAD TOLD THEM GOL HAD INFORMED HIM OF INADEQUATE STEPS ON WITHDRAWAL PLANNED BY ISRAEL AND SIILASVUO'S DISSATISFACTION WITH THESE PLANS. BISHARA HAD CHECKED WITH UN SECRETARIAT, WHICH HAD CONFIRMED THIS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT USYG GUYER HAD INFORMED HIM DURING AFTERNOON THAT SYG WALDHEIM (ALTHOUGH IN EUROPE) HAD APPROVED APPROACH TO GOI AT HIGHEST LEVEL TO URGE PROMPT WITHDRAWAL. (UNSEC HAD ALSO INFORMED LEONARD OF THIS SYG MESSAGE SHORTLY BEFORE OUR MEETING WITH BISHARA.) GUYER HAD ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD TALKED WITH SIILASVUO IN JERUSALEM AND ASKED HIM TO SEE GEN. GUR AGAIN TO IMPRESS ON HIM THE URGENCY OF THIS MATTER AND THE UN'S CONCERN OVER COMPLIANCE WITH SC RES 425.

3. BISHARA SAID UNSEC DID NOT WISH TO HAVE MATTERS COMPLICATED AT THIS TIME. HE UNDERSTOOD THIS BUT HE THOUGHT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WOULD NOT CAUSE DIFFICULTIES. SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE ABOUT "ISRAELI NON-COMPLIANCE WITH RES 425." HE CLAIMED FRENCH WERE ALSO WORRIED AND ACCORDING TO TUENI QUAI CONFIDENTIAL

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HAD SAID SC MEETING WAS DESIRABLE. BISHARA HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MOST NON-WESTERN SC MEMBERS AND HE SAID THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS FRIDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 7. (HE LATER SAID HE HAD NOT TALKED TO LAS.) HE ASKED OUR VIEWS.

4. LEONARD SAID WE SHARED CONCERN OVER WITHDRAWAL AND HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH WASH JUST BEFORE OUR MEETING. HE COULD SAY THAT USG HAD MADE THIS CONCERN KNOWN TO GOI IN STRONG TERMS. AT THIS STAGE WE PREFERRED NOT TO SCHEDULE SC CONSULTATIONS, ALTHOUGH WE AGREED CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE BETTER THAN FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING. WE HOPED FOR RESULTS FROM VARIOUS APPROACHES TO GOI AND WE FEARED THAT CONSULTATIONS MIGHT MIGHT HAVE UNHELPFUL EFFECT. ISRAELIS MIGHT SAY THEY COULD NOT WITHDRAW UNDER PRESSURE. MOREOVER, THERE WAS DANGER OF UPSETTING THE EXISTING CONSENSUS SUPPORTING UNIFIL. LEONARD SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD REPORT BISHARA'S REQUEST AND THIS IN ITSELF COULD PERHAPS BRING SOME USEFUL RESULT.

5. DURING FURTHER DISCUSSION BISHARA ARGUED THAT

SITUATION NEEDED IMPETUS FROM SC BUT HE AGREED TO
MAKE ONLY "TENTATIVE REQUEST" FOR FRIDAY CONSULTATIONS.
HE WOULD REVIEW SITUATION WITH LEONARD FOLLOWING DAY.
IN MEANTIME LEONARD SAID HE WOULD TALK TO OTHER
WESTERN SC MEMBERS AND NORWAY, WHICH HAD DIRECT INTEREST
AS TROOP CONTINBUTOR. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED
THAT IF CONSULTATIONS WERE AGREED, IT WOULD BE
IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS BEFOREHAND JSUT WHAT IT WAS
ANTICIPATED WOULD TAKE PLACE. BISHARA AGREED AND
SAID FORMAL SC MEETING WOULD NOT NECESSARILY FOLLOW
CONSULTATIONS. HE JUST WANTED AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

6. LEONARD ALSO NOTED THAT IT APPEARED UNIFIL WOULD
NEED ADDITIONAL FORCES. BISHARA AGREED AND INDICATED
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THAT IF THERE WERE A "POSITIVE RESPONSE" (BY ISRAELIS
ON WITHDRAWAL) HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE INCREASE IN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01262

UNIFIL'S SIZE. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT
THAT ROMANIA HAD REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE AND THAT
MEXICO HAD NOW ALSO DECLINED.

7. FOLLOWING ABOVE MEETING, MISOFF TALKED WITH UK,
FRENCH, CANADIAN AND GERMAN MISSIONS. ALL (INCLUDING
FRENCH, CONTRARY TO INFO GIVEN US BY BISHARA) SHARE
OUR DESIRE TO AVOID SC MEETING OR CONSULTATIONS
AT THIS STAGE BUT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FRIDAY IF
CONSULTATIONS REQUESTED. UKUN IS SUGGESTING TO FCO
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POSSIBILITY OF BRITISH APPROACH TO GOI ON
QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL. LEONARD ALSO REPORTED
BISHARA APPROACH TO ISRAELI AMB. HERZOG, EMPHASIZING
URGENCY OF ACTION ON WITHDRAWAL.

8. COMMENT: IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT IT IS GOING TO BE
VERY DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO TURN OFF REQUEST
FOR APRIL 7 CONSULTATIONS. ONLY A MAJOR, VISIBLE STEP
ON WITHDRAWAL WILL DO THE TRICK. FURTHER STATEMENT SX
WITHOUT ACTION ON THE GROUND WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780148-0540
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780483/aaaacstl.tel
Line Count: 204
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9cb1d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USUN NEW YORK 1218
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3048189
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: KUWAIT REQUESTS INFORMAL SC MEETING
TAGS: PORG, MARR, IS, LE, XF, KU, UNSC, UNIFIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9cb1d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014